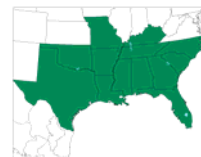


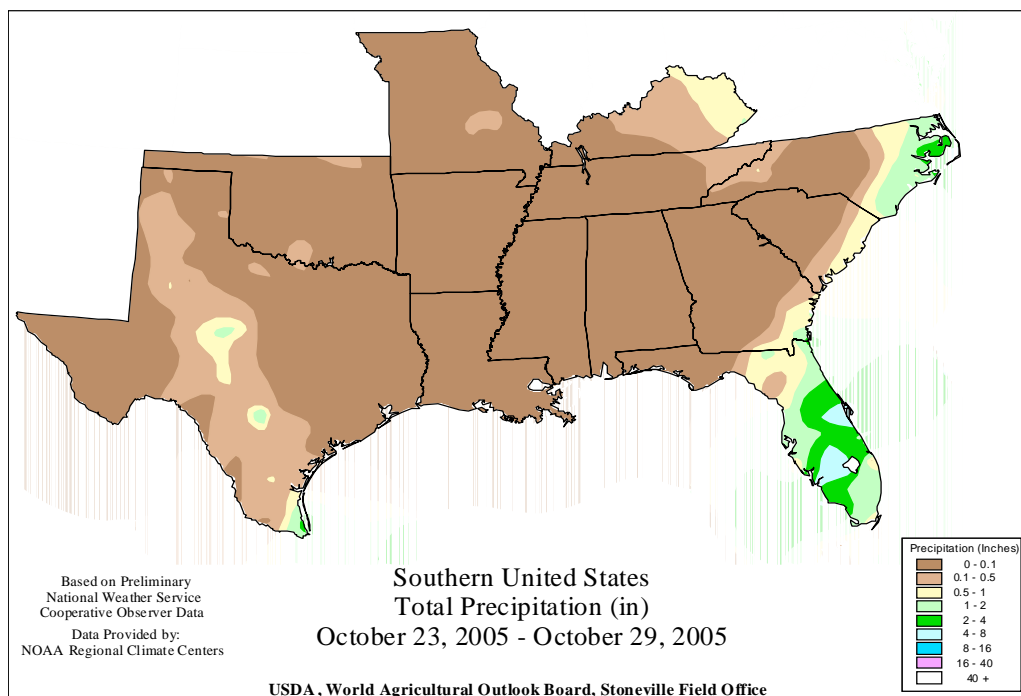


**Office of the Chief Economist
World Agricultural Outlook Board
Stoneville Field Office**



WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL WEATHER REPORT

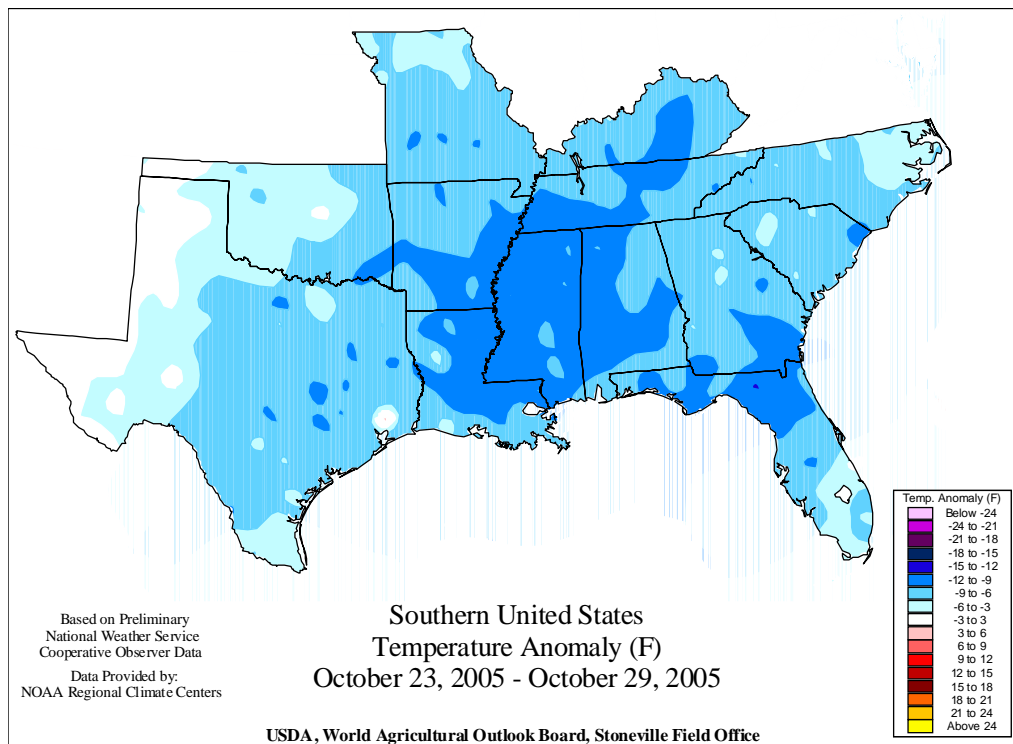
October 23 to 29, 2005



Weather Highlights

Another very dry week prevailed across most of the southern U.S. Parts of Texas and Kentucky benefited from some rainfall, with scattered areas receiving up to one inch. Like last week, Florida observed the highest amounts of rainfall of up to 8 inches. Most of the rainfall along the East Coast was the result of Hurricane Wilma. As Wilma trekked up the Atlantic, it interacted with a storm to the north, which provided up to 4 inches of rainfall on the Outer Banks of North Carolina, and smaller amounts in South Carolina and Georgia. Otherwise, the region was very dry.

Aside from the hurricane, the cold weather from a Canadian airmass was the highlight of the week. The cold weather produced frosts and freezes over much of the Southeast, as far south as northern Florida. Tennessee already reached "killing freeze" status as temperatures bottomed out in the 20's, according to NWS. Heavy frosts also affected Kentucky. Weekly temperatures across most of the region averaged as much as 12 degrees F below normal. Only a small area stretching from the panhandle of Oklahoma southward to the Texas plateau reported near-normal temperatures for the week. This cool pattern was completely the opposite of what transpired last week.



The Mississippi Delta experienced dry and unseasonably cool weather during the week. On four consecutive days, highs remained below 70 degrees F. At night, patchy frost formed when lows dropped to the 30's. The coldest morning in Stoneville occurred Wednesday, October 26, which recorded 33 degrees F; however, it did not beat the daily record from 1955 of 30 degrees F.

(For additional information, contact Nancy Lopez at 662-686-3395)

Agricultural Summary

| United States Crop Progress Report* | | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Week Ending | | | | | |
| | | October 30, 2005 | October 23, 2005 | October 30, 2004 | 2000-2004 Average |
| | | Percent | | | |
| Cotton | Bolls Opening | 96 | 94 | 93 | 97 |
| | Harvested | 53 | 44 | 49 | 55 |
| | Percent (Good to Excellent) | 61 | 59 | 68 | --- |
| | | | | | |
| Corn | Harvested | 80 | 65 | 64 | 74 |
| | | | | | |
| Soybeans | Harvested | 92 | 87 | 83 | 86 |
| | | | | | |
| *Source: USDA/National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) | | | | | |
| "---" = Not Reported | | | | | |

Cotton:

Harvest advanced 9 points to 53 percent complete nationally, 4 points ahead of last year but 2 points behind the 5-year average. Harvest progressed substantially in most of the southern states and neared completion in some due to excellent harvest weather. Harvest in Alabama advanced 26 points to 62 percent complete, while progress in North Carolina advanced 18 points to 53 percent complete. Harvest in Oklahoma (34 percent complete), and Tennessee (82 percent complete) advanced 17 and 16 points, respectively. Nationally, crop conditions improved 2 percentage points from the previous week to 61 percent of the crop rated good to excellent.

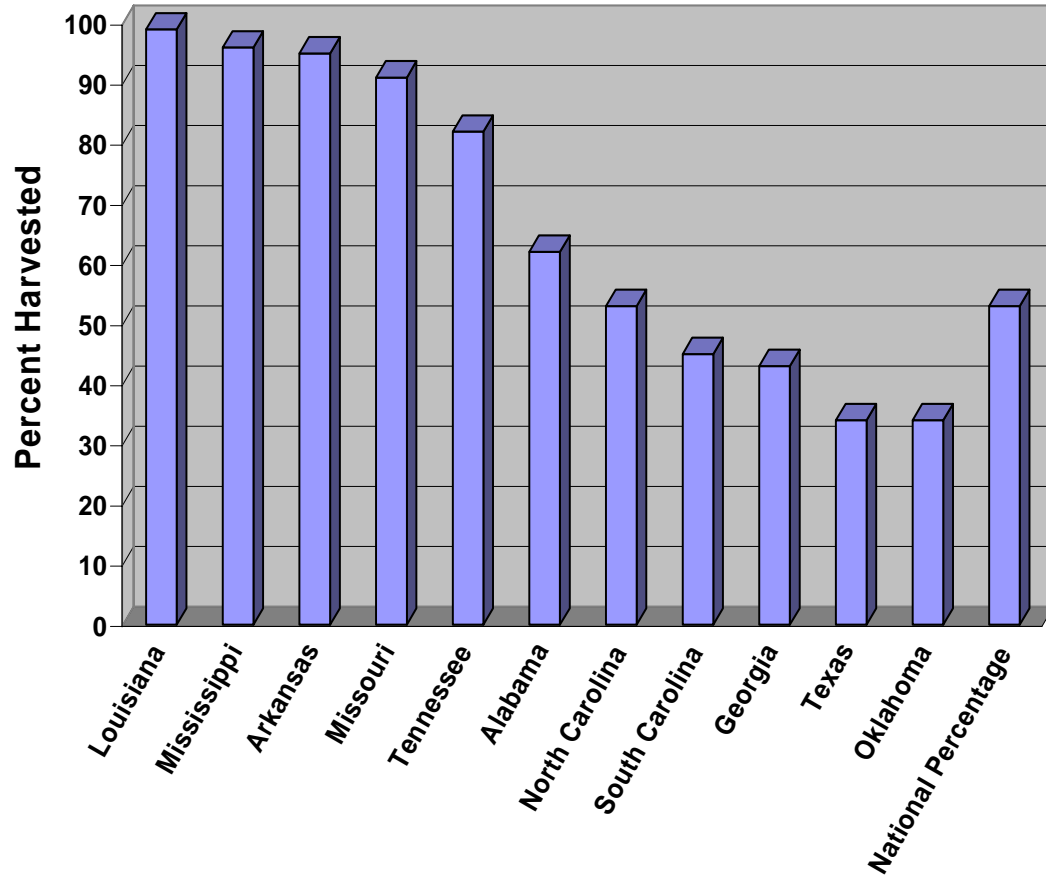
Corn:

With a 15 point advancement, 80 percent of the nation's crop had been harvested, 16 points ahead of last year and 6 points ahead of the 5-year average. Harvest was complete or neared completion in all of the southern states. Missouri was the furthest from completion, with 93 percent of their acreage harvested, 2 points ahead of their 5-year average.

Soybeans:

Harvest was 92 percent complete nationally, 9 points ahead of last year and 6 points ahead of the 5-year average pace. Harvest neared completion in Louisiana and Mississippi, reaching 99 percent. Harvest progress in South Carolina lagged all southern states with 18 percent having been harvested. Georgia and North Carolina followed with 20 percent having been harvested.

2005 Cotton Harvest Progress Week Ending October 30, 2005



Cotton Harvest Progress:

Louisiana led all southern states with 99 percent of their crop harvested, followed by Mississippi with 96 percent, Arkansas with 95 percent, and Missouri with 91 percent. Of the southern states, Oklahoma and Texas trailed all southern states with 34 percent harvested. Harvest progressed to 43 percent complete in Georgia, 45 percent in South Carolina, and 53 percent in North Carolina. Alabama and Tennessee had harvested 62 percent and 82 percent, respectively, of their acreage.

(For additional information, contact Bart Freeland at 662-686-3280)